

Aboriginal Education School

District No. 62



Our Vision, Mission, and Values

VISION—The Aboriginal Education Team, comprised of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people, believe that through our actions today, our children will be proud to see their culture integrated and respected within schools, community and society. We believe they will become academically and socially successful, proud leaders in their communities.

MISSION—The Aboriginal Education Team commits to work for Aboriginal students in an accountable way in order to nurture, support, mentor and teach students to take pride in their culture, their history and their traditions..

VALUES—As an Aboriginal Education Team, we believe that personal integrity, honesty, respect and inclusiveness are essential to our work with students, parents, community members, teachers, administrators and each other.

December 2012

Winter 2012

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Aboriginal Languages

Below are the three words for thank you for our three island nations:

Hych'ke -
Coast Salish

Kleco kleco -
Nuu-chah-nulth

Gilakasla -
Kwakwaka'
wakw

Department News

News from Aboriginal Education fall 2012, we are always thrilled to share our efforts to enrich and enhance learning in schools, classrooms, and community. Our Family Fall Gathering was at Saseenos Elementary school with an opportunity for Aboriginal Education to welcome families, educators, community members and school district officials and wish everyone a successful year. The evening was organized by a committee that did endless lists of jobs to provide everyone with something that is memorable. Hych'ka to the committee for the huge effort! In addition, we had an extremely generous community that provided so many donations and immense commitment to give our families door prizes. It was the largest to

date. We are so pleased to be connected so well to our First Nation youth, treaty and band offices- and our partner groups that share donated caps, bags, cups, sweatshirts with logos that help promote what your organization provides. The highlight of the evening is always the beginning as we engage in local protocol with T'Sou-ke Nation, Scia'new Naiton and a wonderful story this year from T'Sou-ke Solar energy. Many people made a pledge to make a difference and make our world a better place. My pledge is to save as many pennies as possible to help provide water through an RBC campaign. Our department, continues to brainstorm ideas with Me to We Sacred Circle, middle school students, to contribute to our local communities. These ideas will be shared at our next event 'Celebrating Student Success' on February

27th at Spencer Middle School. Please watch for flyers! One of the highlights you will read about in this newsletter are the role models' presentations at schools and classrooms. Our department has worked hard to connect with teachers to brainstorm ways to enhance learning. We have had special presentations by author Richard Van Camp, Ed Peekeekoot and Metis Nation of Greater Victoria, Christine Donaldson. I am very excited to announce that T'Sou-ke Solar will begin a series of community presentations. Classes will travel to T'Sou-ke Nation to learn about solar energy, local history and land.

A newsletter coupon is available and a chance to win a book by an Aboriginal author or with First Nation themes! See page 17.

Kathleen King-Hunt, Principal

Our Traditional Territories

School District Schools are located on two traditional territories:

- Coast Salish
- Nuuchah-nulth

Our three local First Nations Bands

Pacheedaht Nation – Port Renfrew
T'Sou-ke Nation – Sooke
Scia'new Nation – Beecher Bay
'SD No. 62 On Reserve population is 14%' There are 942 Aboriginal students in our program this year!'

Métis Organizations

- Métis Nation of Greater Victoria. MNGV
- Métis Community Services
- SD No. 62 has 256 Métis students in our schools!'

Our Staff

School — District Teachers — ABED

Norma-Jean May – Belmont Secondary

Kathy Sudlow – Edward Milne Community School, EMCS

Huw Griffiths – Spencer Middle

Patti Christianson – Journey Middle

Jon Carr—Dunsmuir Middle

Lisa Stuart – Port Renfrew Elementary

Marlys Denny – Aboriginal Education Literacy, Saseenos Elementary

School — E.S.D. Teachers

Jon Carr - Dunsmuir Middle

Huw Griffiths - Spencer Middle

Patti Christianson - Journey Middle

Norma—Jean May - Belmont Secondary

Kathy Sudlow - EMCS

Gillian Eggleton - Pacific Secondary

Marlys Denny - Elementary

Ana Galac – Elementary

E.S.D. Support Workers

Sam Peekeekoot - Elementary

Tiara Glendale - Hans Helgesen Elementary

Nadine Charles— Ruth King Elementary

School Teachers

Loni Skelton – Westshore First Nations Grad Program

Shannon MacDonald — Port Renfrew Elementary

Other District Staff

Earleen Covey - Secretary

Pam Jones - Noon Hour Supervisor Assistant, Port Renfrew Elementary

Lavina Charles – Halq'emeylem Language

Shirley Alphonse— T'Sou-ke Elder Project

Aboriginal Education Support Workers

Trish McNabb – Edward Milne Community School, EMCS

Lynn Ferguson – Belmont Secondary

Laurie Gibson— Pacific Secondary & MTC

Sherri Rose—Westshore Centre & First Nation Grad Program

Derrick Titian - Dunsmuir Middle, Sangster & Wishart Elementary

Dennis Warbrick – Spencer Middle

Michelle Wolf – Journey Middle

Tania Fetherston – Poirier & Saseenos Elementary

Edie Charley – John Muir, Elder Project & T'Sou-ke Homework

Rosalind Wilkinson - Happy Valley & John Stubbs Elementary/Middle

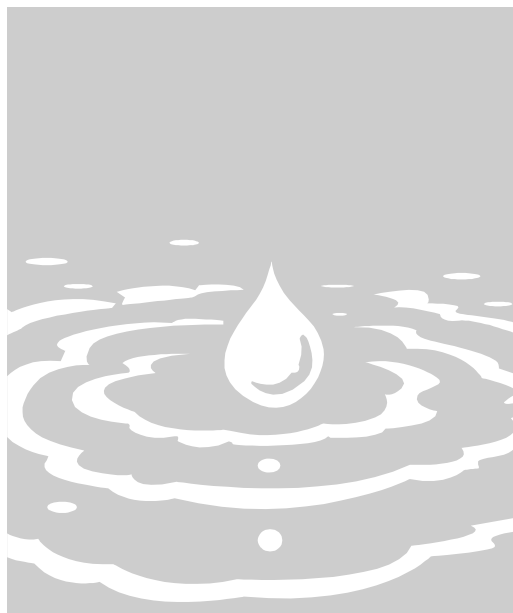
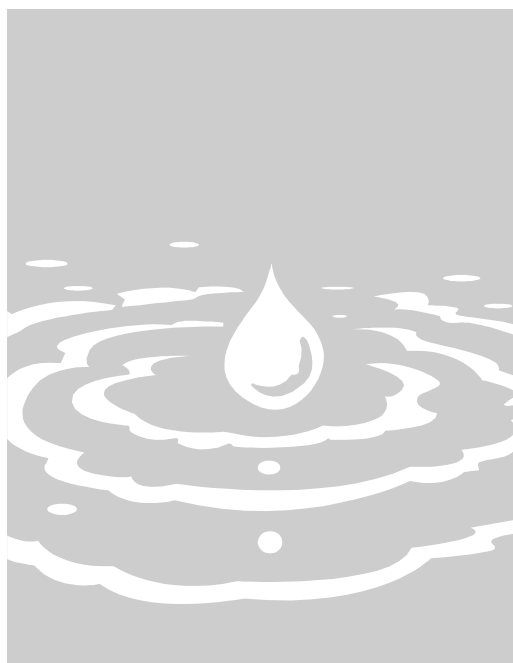
Nadine Charles — Sooke Elementary

Murielle Lagace – Nature 'K', Ruth King Elem., Westshore Centre

Sharon Bond – David Cameron & Savory Elementary

Tiara Glendale— Hans Helgesen Elem.

Sharlene Chaves – Lakewood, Millstream, Crystal View, Willway & Colwood Elem.



Early Learning News

Journeys of the Heart

The Journeys of the Heart Program is now accepting new participants for the 2012/2013 school year.

As Aboriginal families, we believe that it takes a whole community to raise a child.

The Journeys of the Heart program helps families to build and strengthen their child's foundation. The staff of the Journeys of the Heart program work with the child and their families (at least one adult) to determine their child's individual learning styles to help make learning fun.

We believe that a child's identity is very important to their self esteem. We believe that children who have a firm sense of identity do better in school. Cultural identity is a key part of the Journeys of the Heart curriculum.

Let's work together and celebrate our Indigenous heritage while building our children's self esteem and knowledge base so that they may enjoy their lifelong learning experiences.

The program is free. We run Mondays and Wednesdays for a morning program 9:00 to 11:30am and an afternoon program from 1:00 to 3:30pm and siblings are welcome. The program is at Wishart Elementary School, S.D. No. 62.

We are ready, we just need you.

To find out more about our program or to register please contact:

Winnie Williams BSW

Hulitan Manager of Family Services

250-384-9466x251

wwilliams@hulitan.ca

Outreach StrongStart

Strong Start is a free program where children aged 0-5, accompanied by a parent or caregiver, can participate in organized sessions which include play activities, circle time, snack time, and activities that help develop gross motor skills.

A Place to Play—Beecher Bay

Strong Start is every Tuesday & Thursday afternoons. All Welcome!

Erin Armstrong—new coordinator!

Beecher Bay "A Place to Play"

4901B East Sooke Rd

Sooke, BC V0S 1N0

Tuesday

8:45 - 11:45 a.m.

Thursday

8:45—11:45 a.m.

Hans Helgesen Elementary

250 478-3431

Port Renfrew Elementary - Strong Start

6633 Deering Rd,

Port Renfrew, BC V0S 1K0

Phone: 250-647-5577

Monday & Wednesday

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Ready, Set, Learn Events

The Aboriginal Education Department hosts Ready, Set, Learn events at our early learning

Aboriginal programs over the year. Please connect with one of the above programs to see when the next presenter assist with school readiness through cultural presentations, song, dance, literacy and a lot of fun!

Here is a link to preschool readiness tips:

http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/early_learning/rsl/2009/rsl_english09.pdf



Super Snack Ideas for School Lunches

- **Crunch & Munch** – cheese chunks and apples or applesauce
- **Power-Packed Snack** – hard boiled egg and sliced avocado, tomato or cucumber
- **Veggie Dippers** – veggies with tzatziki or hummus dip
- **Fruity Kabobs** – bite sized pieces of fruit with yogurt for dipping
- **Wrap 'n Roll** – whole wheat tortilla spread with cream cheese, sprinkled with grated carrot and sunflower seeds, rolled and cut into 2 cm (1 inch) pieces
- **Rollin' Roti** – dipped in dal
- **Breakfast Anytime** – dry whole grain cereal with unsweetened dried fruit
- **Sushi Rolls on the Go** – kappa-maki (cucumber) rolls without soy sauce

Action Schools! BC Classroom
Healthy Eating Action Resource at
www.actionschoolsbc.ca

FAMILY FALL GATHERING—'HYCH'KE' FOR THE DONATIONS

Prize	Winner's	Prize	Winner's
Bag & Frame FNEC Parents Club	Jenna	Blue Child Hoodie, TN-TTA	Livvy & Leo
T-Shirt, VNFC	Jeannie	Black T-Shirt, IAHLA-FNEC	Carlson
Mug, Pacheedaht Nation	Terri-Anne	Black T-Shirt, IAHLA-FNEC	Lila
T-Shirt, VNFC	Anim	Black T-Shirt, IAHLA-FNEC	Alma
Purple T-Shirt, CUPE	Evelyn	Black T-Shirt, IAHLA-FNEC	Kendra
Blue T-Shirt, CUPE	Robert	Case of Salmon (canned)-Pacheedaht Nation	John
Red Hoodie, VNFC	Norah	2 Tickets to Vancouver Island Parents Conf	Jeff
Black Hoodie, VNFC	Denise	Kobo Reader & case, Aboriginal Education, SD62 Joey	
Bag of Coffee, Serious Coffee	Barb	\$25.00 Walmart Gift Card, Dianna Seaton	Travis
Bag of Coffee, Serious Coffee	Bob	\$25.00 Walmart Gift Card, Dianna Seaton	Calib
\$25.00 Gift Certificated, Village Foods	Isabelle	War of 1812 T-Shirt, Bob Phillips	Chuck
\$25.00 Gift Certificated, Village Foods	Norma	War of 1812 T-Shirt, Bob Phillips	Carmen
Back pack w/supplies, Telus	Tanner	Adult Winchester Tool Set, Lynn Ferguson	Charlene
Back pack w/supplies, Telus	Terrance	Out of the Mist Book, Neil Poirier	Denise
Back pack w/supplies, Telus	Evvy	Pacheedaht Family Gift Basket, Western Foods	
Back pack w/supplies, Telus	Neil	Back pack w/supplies, Telus	
Back pack w/supplies, Telus	Kristene	Olympic 2012 stuffy	Kohl
Back pack w/supplies, Telus		Pacheedaht bag & mug, Pacheedaht Nation	Steve
Lunch Bag, Sharlene	Carol	Coffee Travel Mug - Hulitan	Kim
Stormtech zip up & bag, TN-TTA	Russell	Hulitan black bag & USB stick - Hulitan	Raven
Soccerball, T'Sou-ke Nation	Milana	Fleece Blanket - Hulitan	Anne
Basketball, TN-TTA	Nakota	Coffee Travel Mug - Hulitan	Douglas
Women's Storetech Black Zipup TN-TTA	Nancy	Hulitan Red bag & Success by Six T-shirt	Laura
Black Hoodie, TN-TTA	Eric	Success by Six Yellow T-Shirt	Latisha
Brown Youth Hoodie, TN-TTA	Keemia	Success by Six Orange T-Shirt, Hulitan White Bag	Drayden
		Success by Six Red T-Shirt	Jason

Elementary News

RUTH KING

Wow! To see that it is 2 weeks prior to Christmas and another year almost come and gone!!

We here at Ruth King have been so busy it is no wonder that time flies so fast.

The students have been on a couple of fieldtrips as well as swimming lessons and are they ever practicing up for the Christmas Concert. It will not disappoint anyone attending. There has been a Halloween Dance which (no pun intended) was extremely well attended and fun was had by all.

Our sports teams both boys and girls are doing well.

I have been very busy with the students in all the classrooms and it is so rewarding to see our children doing so well.

The Grade 4's received the workshop on Metis peoples and really enjoyed it. We also had a visit from the Emily Carr Art Program, it too was well received. Kindi and Grade Ones went to Galey Farms prior to Halloween and fun was had by all.

I presented a Workshop in one of the Gr. 4 classes on 'Respect' and the teacher said she noticed a difference in her classroom after that.

As for Christmas decorations we have put up a Christmas tree in the front foyer that students from every grade has contributed something to the tree. We have Aboriginal Christmas balls and feathers as well as bentwood boxes all inclusive in the decorations of the Christmas tree.

Best wishes for the Festive season to all and may 2013 bring everyone joy and passion for the year to come.

Murielle Lagace

Aboriginal Education Support Worker

RUTH KING

For the past couple of months I have been at Ruth King Elementary as an English Skills Development Support worker for students from Grade 1 - 5. I

thoroughly enjoy working with the students and providing additional support that they may need in reading, writing, speaking, and following directions to complete their assignments. They are happy to see me when I walk into their individual classes and request my assistance almost right away. It has been very rewarding for me to see shy students, ask questions, struggling students, understand and complete their assignments. I have seen many of the students advance in many different ways. I love my job as ESD support worker and look forward to the year ahead.

Nadine Charles

English Skills Development Support Worker

SASEENOS

Wonderful Wednesdays at Saseenos!

I have the pleasure of working in the Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes on Wednesdays at Saseenos Elementary School.

This fall, my time with Mrs. Symington's Kindergarten class has included going outdoors for exploratory fun, supporting students in recording their thoughts and ideas in their journals, and of course lending a helping hand when it is needed. I have also had the opportunity to read a few picture books to the class. Next term I am excited to begin 'Talking Tables', an Oral Language Program. I really enjoy watching the students develop new routines, concepts, and friendships in the classroom and on the playground.

I love working in the Grade 1 classroom as well! Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. James have welcomed me into the classroom with open arms. Mornings combine a wealth of reading, writing, speaking, and listening activities... which I relish participating in. Each week, after lunch I read a story to this keen class. It is amazing to see how quickly they make predictions and connections to the story's events and characters. This fall, a

highlight was Elder Shirley Alphonse's visit; she told a story infused with Sencoten words as well as Mrs. Baty's purchase of the Eagle Crest and Strong Reader Book collection to enhance the students' home reading program.

Hych'ke Shirley and Mrs. Baty!

In term two, I look forward to facilitating more Aboriginal role model visits and supporting the students' literacy development.

Marlys Denny

Aboriginal Education, Literacy Teacher

The students at Saseenos have been working hard this year. The kindergartens are learning Sencoten language with MS. Shirley Alphonse, and love to share what they have learned. Some of the classes have started swimming lessons as other have just enjoyed field trips to farms, museums and even the local Veterinarian.

Tania Fetherston

AESW

ECOLE POIRIER

Wow what a great start to the school year. We have had so much fun in culture club and thank you to the all the girls who joined leadership, your help with culture club is really appreciated. The kids have all been working hard on their school work and have enjoyed field trips to the museum, swimming and many others.

Tania Fetherston

Metis Nation Greater Victoria, MNGV

Christine Donaldson completed fourteen presentations at the elementary level in November. The grade four series is in it's third year and received extremely well by all classrooms. This year the program has been expanded to secondary humanities courses. Belmont will have the first session the week before Christmas. The presentations include interactive and Metis information that is key for all learners to know about Metis culture, history and lands. *Con't page 9*

Elementary School News

COLWOOD, CRYSTAL VIEW, LAKEWOOD, MILLSTREAM AND WILLWAY ELEMENTARY

I am happy to return to Willway Elementary and work with the students / staff again .I'm assisting students in classrooms when needed. I enjoy instructing Aboriginal art lessons in many of the classrooms. It's been a lot of fun doing arts/crafts with my students at lunch time. It's been a pleasure to meet my new students and staff at (Lakewood Elem, Millstream Elem, Crystal View Elem, and Colwood Elementary). I've been able to get into classrooms quickly and assist students where needed. I'm having a lot of fun instructing some Aboriginal art lessons in classrooms. I've also been able to get to know some of my students during our lunch time groups. I look forward to the New Year at all my schools. I wish everyone a great Holiday and all the best into the New Year!!!
Sharlene (Rogers) Chaves

SOOKE ELEMENTARY

So far this year has been quite interesting, getting to know students and teachers has been quite the challenge to say the least, but considering I enjoy meeting new people, young and older, has made this a rewarding and wonderful experience for me. I love my current role as the Aboriginal Education Support Worker at Sooke Elementary School. I feel fortunate to have this opportunity to be a part of an amazing team of educators and able to provide the added support in assisting students in classroom academics. I enjoy working with each student and learning their individual personalities, differences and interests. What I find so rewarding is while I am supporting a student in his/her learning, that moment, when I see in their eyes, that they understand, that they got it! Seeing the pride is a great feeling not only for them but also for me. Tuesday, November 6th, Ms. Arnot and Mr. Treloar, the grade 5 classes, had Aboriginal role models, Earl Claxton and John (JB) Williams in the library for story

- telling, show and tell of Aboriginal carvings, other Aboriginal tools used for making drums and other cedar items, then a question and answer session. They were told how Aboriginal people care for and respect all living things, people, four legged animals, fish, plants, the land, waters, and how we use these in our daily lives. The students were very interested and had plenty of questions to ask. I believe this was quite the learning experience for the students. For Halloween, I wore a devil costume, I haven't dressed in costume for years. The students seemed to have enjoyed the staff dressing in costume. I enjoyed it and thought it was so much fun. I absolutely enjoy my role as the Aboriginal Education Support Worker and look forward to the rest of the school year and what it will bring.

Nadine Charles

Aboriginal Education Support Worker

JOHN MUIR ELEMENTARY

We had a busy start of the year, we blinked and its now December.

We had role models from the community visit the school. We are having more come in the New Year.

John Muir would like to thank Jeff Welch for donating a drum to the school.

Thank you to all the monitors who gave up their time to help out in the school.

Our future project is to have a welcome mural, which will be done by T'Sou-ke Nation Artist Charlene George.

We will also have a First Nation artist carving a paddle to put on display at the school.

Congratulations to all the "READ WITH ME" students, they are all doing a wonderful job.

We recently had report cards, way to go to all our students, they are thriving academically in all areas.

We are proud to say the **Elder's Project** is

going well. The students and parents have excellent feedback about the language program.

The T'Sou-ke Nation homework club is in full swing. The days for it is on Tuesdays and Wednesdays after school.

Right now we are gearing up for Christmas, our 'sing a long' is going to be Dec. 20, 2012.

We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!

Ms. Shirley, Sencoten Language, Ms. Ana, Aboriginal ESD teacher and Ms. Edie, A.E.S.W.



Elder Shirley Alphonse, Sencoten Language



Port Renfrew Pre-Schoolers

Elementary News

HAPPY VALLEY & JOHN STUBBS

Hello everyone my name is Rosalind Wilkinson. Staff and students have made me feel very welcome to my new position in the School District. I am enjoying getting to know all the students by supporting them in their classrooms. Happy Valley is celebrating their 100 year anniversary this year. In this celebration one of the classes was looking for local Aboriginal history/culture, so we invited a Pakki Chipps from Scia'new Nation to come in and speak to the class. Wow! A big thank-you to her for her wonderful presentation.

At John Stubbs we had the opportunity to bring a Role model into a grade seven science class. We invited a Earl Claxton to come in and speak with the students. It was amazing to watch the students embracing their culture. He encouraged the kids to ask their elders all they could about their culture. A big thank-you to him, I know the students won't forget your visit. We also were excited to have the Christine Donaldson present the Métis Enhancement Project, a two part presentation to a grade 4/5 class. It was wonderful to hear about the Métis culture. The students made bracelets with wool representing the colors of the Métis Sash.

We are also working with four middle school students on Celebrating Student Success which is an event held in February. In December we had a gathering presented by Me to We Sacred Circle. Middle School students were invited to T'Sou-ke Nation to engage in this program. In January we are also invited to Scia'new Nation for two days with Me to We Sacred Circle. It all ties together with the Celebrating Student Success event. The students had a fun time working together and learning new skills. It will be wonderful to see them pull it all together and participate in making this event a success.

In this short time I feel honored to be working with such amazing kids. I will



Student and Role Model,

Happy Valley Elementary

do my best to continue supporting students in their classes and bringing culture to your schools.

Rosalind Wilkinson, AESW

WISHART

Hello, my name is Derrick; I come from the Ahousaht Nation. I'm the new Aboriginal Education worker at Wishart Elementary, so working at a new school gave me the opportunity to meet new students, and some new staff. The kids and staff there gave me a warm welcome.

The start of the year for me was nervous because it was a new school new students and staff. Once I met everyone I felt I fit right in. I started out with a new schedule at the school; my job is to support the student's academically in class and to give them a sense of belonging. I bring in Aboriginal role models to come in and teach us their teachings. The grade three students learned aboriginal art from Charlene George, the grade five students are going to learn about the Metis people. The grade six students are going to learn about the plants and its cultural uses. I look forward to the new school year and working with more role models at Wishart Elementary.

Klecko Klecko (thank you) Derrick

SANGSTER

Hi my name is Derrick. This is my second year to be at Sangster elementary, and I 'am glad to be back, to see familiar students, and staff, as well as some new

students. The start of the year was somewhat hectic, with students getting settled into their classrooms, but it was done. Once that was done I was able to set up my routine schedule. Now I'm able to provide in class support as well as bring in Aboriginal role models to teach them about their teachings and their art work. I'm glad to be back into a routine of going into individual student's classrooms and providing academic support to the students. It gives me a great sense of pride to be able to help out the students. Two of the grade six students just completed a ten week DARE project. They along with their class mates received a certificate for their hard work. Looking ahead I have a few roles in mind to come in and once again show our students how we are gifted as Aboriginal people. We as a school are planning on getting one of the musically talented role models to come in to perform for the entire school. I'm excited and cannot wait.

Klecko Klecko (Thank you) Derrick Titian

NATURE K PROGRAM

I feel so blessed to spend my Thursdays with all the 5 year olds at Sangsters' Nature K program.

My role is to bring some First Nations material and information for the children there.

So far we have read How the Raven stole the Sun and it was followed by the Raven Tales DVD on the same subject. It was wonderful to see the children identifying with the characters in the movie as they had already heard the story.

We also received 2 visits from Mr. May grade 7 student. They buddied up with the kindi's and did some nature art as well as other tasks.

Cont'd Page 13...Nature K Program

Elementary School News

PORT RENREW ELEMENTARY

Happy Holidays from Port Renfrew Elementary! This past week we had our annual Christmas potluck lunch and performance, along with the Pacheedaht Preschool and the Strong Start program. Many members of the community were there as well as lots of the amazing people who work with our students and in the community. Thank you everyone for coming and for the delicious food you brought. Thank you to everyone who helped with the event! As usual, the Sooke Lioness spoiled our students with a gift bag for each one and a great collection of books to add to our school library. We are very thankful and appreciative for all you do for our school.

The thanks doesn't end there! A huge thank you to Laurie Szadkowski and the grade 4 students of Poirier Elementary for buying each of our students a fun "Knitwit" hat in appreciation to our students for being great hosts on their visit out to see Ed Peekeekoot.

Thank you to the staff at John Muir Elementary for making us feel so welcome on our visits and taking our students into your classrooms. They really enjoy it and I believe the friendships and connections they have made will be a comfort and support when it's time to start Journey.

Thank you to Patti Christianson, Michelle Nahanee, Michelle Thompson and the student helpers for inviting us to join your annual turkey lunch. It was delicious and the kids had a great time socializing with familiar and new faces at Journey Middle School.

The final thanks go to the Sooke Lions Club and Pacheedaht First Nation for donating the funds to purchase Second Step kids for the school. We will be implementing this program in the New Year and are very excited to see the students put into practice all the great skills they will learn. Anyone who would like more information on Second Step, please contact me or Ms. Shannon at Port Renfrew Elementary.

With the help of FNEESC, Tara Munro, and the family members of our students, we have started a Community Club this year! We meet monthly and chose a theme to focus on. So far we have discussed fire safety and had a speaker come and talk to parents about FASD. This is a great opportunity for staff and community members to share goals and wishes for the coming year. We look forward to the New Year, where Ms. Shannon and I will continue to work together to place a strong focus on literacy, numeracy and social development.

Aboriginal culture is incorporated into the students' learning daily through literature, hands on experiences and activities, language, art, community events, music, games, nature explorations and Aboriginal role models. I am currently exploring options to fund the purchase of equipment and supplies (rain gear, packs, magnifying glasses, etc.) to enhance and enrich our outdoor learning activities. We will also be inviting guests, community members and other role models who specialize in the outdoors to share the knowledge with our students.

Lisa Stuart, Aboriginal Literacy Teacher

MNGV (con't)

John Muir, Hans Helgesen, John Stubbs, Sooke, and Ruth King received Christine Donaldson's presentation in November. Christine brought in Metis role models Jo-Ina Young, Bertha Landrie, Paige Moran, Fern Perkins, Denise Renaud to do oral storytelling, jigging, ancestor & pioneer, singing and more. Thanks to teachers for signing up! Belmont will be having the first secondary presentation by Christine this week in BCFNS12. In January, we hope to have presentations at Pacific, Westshore, and EMCS. Call K. King-Hunt at 250 474-9879 for information.



Elementary School News

David Cameron Elementary

Greetings from David Cameron, This year at David Cameron we have new administrators at our school, Mr. Scott Manning, (Principal), and Mrs. Sharon Leonard, (Vice-principal). They are great supporters of our Aboriginal Programs.

We have had a good start to our year at DC, this part of the year brought the Box of Treasures to our school. This is a program offered through the Victoria Native Friendship Center, with Leslie McGarry. Lelsie came in and visited all classes and shared the culture of the Aboriginal people of Canada. This series of workshops also included a trip to the Royal BC Museum. I would like to send a big thank you to Sharon Leonard, for organizing this, and also to Leslie McGarry, for her dedication to educating our students and staff in our district.

We have also had community Role Models come in, and share their knowledge with us. Local T'Sou-ke Artist Charlene George has worked with us on various art projects this year. Thank you to her, for all her incredible talent and knowledge she shared with us. Mr. Alex Nelson has also come and visited and presented on the

Potlatch with our classes.

We were also treated to some stories and drumming with Mr. Scott Sam of NIL/TU,O Child and Family Services Society. We will continue connecting Aboriginal content to classroom learning. There are lots of exciting activities to look forward to as we enter into 2013.

Kleco kleco,

Sharon Bond, AEWS

Savory Elementary

Greetings from Savory Elementary, we also have a new principal to Savory, Mrs. Jane Penn. She works hard to ensure that we have every possible opportunity to include Aboriginal activities and projects into our school.

We have also had Charlene George visit our school, and we worked on various art to make connections to various First Nations symbols they see in their communities.

Scott Sam from NIL\TU,O, also visited Savory, and educated the students about Goldstream and the Coast Salish peoples, and the connection to this park. He also shared some traditional drumming, and songs with the students.

We are excited to start working on Aboriginal paddles, they were made by a district staff member, Roger Campbell, Carpentry Program Project Coordinator at Westshore Center for Learning. We will be working on these paddles at lunch times, with Charlene George, where the students will be able to design and paint their on paddles. We look forward to many more exciting work to happen at Savory.

Kleco kleco,

Sharon Bond, AESW



Aboriginal Education

Enhancement Agreement— Report Three 2012

The Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement report three is now on the district website.

Please review at:

[http://www.sd62.bc.ca/Programs/
AboriginalEducation.aspx](http://www.sd62.bc.ca/Programs/AboriginalEducation.aspx)

Or visit www.sd62.bc.ca to view departments and click on Aboriginal Education.

Sense of Belonging Goal:

To increase Aboriginal students' sense of place, belonging, and caring in School District No. 62 (Sooke).

Aboriginal Ways of Knowing Goal:

To increase awareness and understanding of Aboriginal Ways of Knowing in both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students.

Language Goal:

To increase knowledge of Aboriginal languages by Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students.

Achievement Goal:

To enhance the achievement and success of Aboriginal students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 in academics as well as training for the trades and life skills.

Middle School News



JOURNEY

First off we would like to reintroduce ourselves. Michelle Nahanee-Wolf is the Aboriginal Education Support Worker and is on her 8th year at Journey! I am Patti Christianson (Ms. C), the Aboriginal Literacy Teacher and have been here for 6 years! Ms. C was on maternity leave last year and is happy to be back.

The fall has been a busy time here at Journey. September flew by with students getting to know one another on class field trips where Michelle went on a few too. She really enjoyed going to Alyard Farm with all the grade seven classes. We also had our Annual Welcome Back Tea in the All Nations Room during a lunch where many of our Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students came and enjoyed tea and fruit. We had a traditional welcoming by Elder Shirley Alphonse.

October and November went by in a blur with all the exciting events and learning! We had an amazing cyber bullying assembly that reminded students to be aware of what they post on the internet. Students are still talking about the powerful presentation. We then had Métis Author, David Bouchard present to the whole school. He had the students leaping with excitement talking about books for 90 minutes! He handed out some of his books and many bookmarks for students answering questions about books, authors, characters from a wide variety of genre. The students did

not want him to stop even though they were getting sore sitting on that gym floor for so long. A big "thank you" to Ms. Gerow, our Literacy Teacher at Journey, for organizing David Bouchard's presentation. What a way to end November!

First term ended November 30th with a great start with our Aboriginal students! We have 88% of our students passing all their courses!

This is a message from Mr. Strange, the principal, "We have adopted a "push in" model of support that focuses on integrating our Aboriginal students as much as possible and keying on academic success. Of course we continue with cultural support but have shifted those to the natural breaks in the school day. The results: our kids are in class more than ever, our Aboriginal teacher and support worker are working with our kids in real time in the classroom and with teachers (fosters sense of belonging and bring the other goals of the enhancement agreement to bear as relationships build with our classroom teachers), and our staff is looking for more and more ways to bring aboriginal culture into their curriculum." Way to go students!



We had our annual Christmas Shop sale this month where any student buys gifts that have been donated for their families. We use the money raised to help local families in need. We also had our Turkey Lunch that was attended by many students!

We have also started the Me to We leadership group with the other 3 middle schools this month. We have 8 students from Journey part of the team helping to create and organize the Aboriginal Student Success Night. Our students had an awesome time playing games, building new relationships and becoming leaders!



For first term we had First Nations Art Exploratory where we had 16 students with some Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal learning how to draw ovoids, u-shapes and then created their own masterpiece. The artwork on this page is displayed in the foyer of Journey Middle School for all to enjoy.



Middle School News

SPENCER

As I'm sure is the case with all schools, Spencer's All Nations room has been rocking since the beginning of the year. Three months have flown by so this is just a snapshot of some of the amazing activities our students have been involved in. We have attended the We Day celebration in Vancouver followed up by the Sacred Circle workshops, had role-models and Elders visit, weekly Green Team contributions and the Grade 7 Aboriginal Awareness Exploratory.

We Day: In mid-October, Dunsmuir and Spencer took a group of students to Vancouver for a jammed packed, high energy day of entertainment and motivation. We heard such people as Arch Bishop Desmond Tutu and Spencer West speak who were amazingly interesting. Since then a core group of dedicated students have been hard at it raising money for a clean water & sanitation program for a Kenyan village yet to be determined.

Sacred Circles: In early November 6 Spencer students joined students from the other middle schools in our district for 2 days of fun and learning. The program is part of the 'Me to We Leadership Sacred Circle program that promotes leadership and self-esteem in our youth. Community members are encouraged to participate in the workshops and work with students to incorporate positive change. Everyone really appreciated a great day couple of days working at the T'Sou-ke Nations Band Hall, a big thank you to everyone from the T'Sou-ke that helped and we look forward to the next installment in February.

Elders & Speaker's Lunches: On the last Wednesday of each month the All Nation's Room holds a Speakers Lunch. Often we will invite members from our Role Models Program in to share their knowledge with our kids. Afterwards we all sit down to have a nice warm meal

provided by our lovely Chef, Rosie. So far we have had elder Shirley Alphonse open our school year, Saanich Elder John Williams share a creation story from his nation, and our Vice-principal John Lyall gave a presentation about his trip to Holland to raise a Totem pole carved by Rande Cooke.

Grade 7 Exploratory: Spencer is fortunate enough to have a Grade 7 Aboriginal Awareness Exploratory as part of the curriculum. Throughout the year every grade 7 student at Spencer will take part in an 8 week course to raise awareness about Aboriginal Ways of Knowing. Throughout the course we cover topics that relate to different groups of First Nations across British Columbia with a focus on Vancouver Island. We explore what identity is, what it means to individuals and what it means to Aboriginal people. We read, listen, watch, and respond to various types of Aboriginal literature, and we explore the various manners in which diverse groups of Aboriginal people across British Columbia and Canada express their culture. We have also been lucky enough to have Charlene George join us to share her knowledge of art, language and the T'Souke Nations history.

Drums: As well as working with the exploratory class, Charlene George has also been in the All Nation's Room helping students make drums and create designs to paint on their drums. Some of these drums, along with the art projects conducted in the exploratory will be on show for the upcoming Celebrating Student Success Night.

Green Team: Staff and a committed group of students combine two times a week to ensure Spencer's recycling is taken care of. Money raised goes back into our room, students can be very proud of their continual hard

work.

It's been a great start to the year, Happy Holidays to everyone from Spencer. Huw Griffiths Abed/ESD Teacher & Dennis Warbrick, AESW

DUNSMUIR

Dunsmuir Aboriginal Education has an enthusiastic, energetic and creative group of students who are involved in school and community activities. To acknowledge Aboriginal ways of knowing, we hosted a gathering which celebrated SIS,ET (the elder moon), featuring lunch, a movie and a door prize for students and staff. To start the year, we had an enthusiastic group of students attend "We Day" where they were inspired by motivational speakers to make a change in the world. The follow-up "Me to We Sacred Circle" had its first two sessions on 'belonging' and 'mastery' where a group of different students actively participated in team building and leadership activities. They are looking forward to presenting their learning at the Celebration of Student Success in February. We also went on two really fun skating trips to help build community and sense of belonging. The READ Society Capturing Stories Project is back for the 2nd year to build on the media skills acquired from its 1st year. It has been a very informative and fun experience for all students participating. A big thanks to Dano Underwood for his expertise and great sense of humour in leading the project. Students are learning about scriptwriting, scene development, acting, and make-up. Eventually, once production is over, they will also learn about editing and post-production. Out in the community, we have students volunteering their time to the Mustard Seed Café where they are preparing and serving meals to those in need. *Con't page 13*

Elementary and Middle School News– con't

DUNSMUIR MIDDLE (con't)

In the school, we had guests from Camosun and UVic, LE NONET, to speak about post-secondary options for students. Students were able to get an idea of pathways once they reach high-school and beyond! We have been privileged to have some amazing Aboriginal Role-Model presenters into classes. They have taught some very interesting lessons; Earl Claxton has been in several times teaching traditional plant usage and environmental education; Charlene George has taught about oral storytelling, creation stories, and aboriginal ways of knowing; and Andre Spencer has taught very moving classes about healing circles, and substance abuse to Health & Career students. We look forward to a field trip at Goldstream Park in the new year where Earl Claxton will teach about the environment. Lastly, Dunsmuir Aboriginal Education students have proven to be leaders in anti-bullying initiatives going around the school.

New Aboriginal Literacy Support Teacher Jon Carr, would like to thank students, staff, and community members for a warm welcome into the Aboriginal Education Department in SD62. Good luck to our former teacher, Justine

Durrant, as she pursues furthering her education!

Lots of great things going on and more to come in the new year!

*Hych'ka or HÍSWKE
Kleco Kleco or lekoo lekoo!
Gilakas'la*

Marsee

Jon Carr & Derrick Titian

Aboriginal Education Team at Dunsmuir Middle School

SCHOOL ELEMENTARY– E.S.D.

This year has been great so far. I have really enjoyed connecting and working with all the students and staff at all the schools I am at. I feel very fortunate to be working with the ESD team, which is made up of such skilled and passionate people. Of course, the very best part of my job is getting to watch all of the students I work with gain confidence and skills – you should see the looks on their faces when they finally solve a difficult problem, or realize they just read something difficult on their own! I really believe that all students can be successful, and that it requires a diversity of approaches and personalities to help students flourish. I'm excited for 2013, and the ongoing development of the ESD

program here at School District 62. Have a wonderful Winter Break, and a Happy New Year!

Sam Peekeekoot
ESD Support Worker

NATURE K PROGRAM (cont'd)

We have a snack time every day at one of our Camps, there I also read the children stories. Most often the stories are legends and we discuss them afterwards.

I also read stories that present positive behaviors and virtues.

While out and about I have talked to the children about different aspects of First Nations peoples such as the use of the Cedar tree and all its uses.

Just one more thing. There is a thing called, "filling buckets" This is done when children are kind and helpful to one another and they are learning to take responsibility for themselves in dealing with minor conflicts. I love to fill buckets and get mine filled on Thursdays at Nature K.

Murielle Lagace
AESW



VNFC, Box of Treasures Program, Leslie McGarry



Secondary News



Corwin



Alex



Family Fall Gathering Grad Fundraiser 2012-13

Pacific Secondary & MTC News

Greetings from: Metchosin Technical Centre, Pacific Secondary and Ed West Campus. We have had a very busy start to the school year so far!

MTC: Some of the things the students have been up to are: Hatching Chicks in Laura's Science class which was a great hit and helped students to learn about reproduction, and also working with our little buddies from Hans Helgeson Elementary School to make a Bug House. The students have also been busy writing letters to the editor of Metchosin Muse and Dayna's grade 9 class took a trip to the Royal B.C Museum for First Nations Studies. Thank-you to Leslie McGarry for all the knowledge that she shared with the class, as well as for the help with the ink design that we did with the grade 9's.

Pacific Ed West: Students at Pac West have been busy this term working through their academic courses! We are happy to announce that our partnership with Sooke Elementary School continues this year. Our students go to the elementary school once a week to read with younger students. Way to be great role models!! Students at Pac West are also giving back to the community this holiday season and have organized a food hamper that they will donate to the Sooke Crisis Center just before Christmas. We look forward to starting some new art projects in the New Year!

Pacific Secondary: We have been very busy meeting new students and getting to know each and every one. We would like to thank Blair Slone for donating a sewing machine to the AB ED Department at Pacific. This will save us a lot of time when making Native scarves. Thanks again Blair for all your help. We also have started a button blanket and the students have been busy painting up a storm in Blair's Art class. In the New Year we look forward starting a paddle project with the Grad Class!

Cont'd Page 19 Pacific & MTC News

Secondary School News

EMCS

Black Bear is a youth summer program provided for Aboriginal students across Canada. Edward Milne community school was holding an Aboriginal career day in the library and there were booths set up. This one particular booth caught my eye there was a guy there from the Canadian



Forces, so of course, what do I do I walk over. We start talking about this program gives me information on what I have to do in order to get through the process then gives me an application.

The application was more like consent forms in order for me to join I had to have parents signature, references, school record. Later on down the road I receive a phone call from the recruitment center. They wanted to interview me. later that week I receive another phone call they wanted me to take an aptitude test then a physical test this is at that point I thought why are they making me do all of this for a summer program].

So on I went determined to get it done, I write the aptitude test which wasn't easy at all and guess what I didn't pass I failed. They call me into a room to show me my results I already knew that I didn't do so well. So my results had to be sent off with a written letter to explain why and the final decision would be made. Luck was on my side and they accepted me all that was left to do now was the physical part of it. The first time I went in to do the physical test I failed the lady gave me tips to improve and that's exactly what I did.

School was almost over for summer holidays and I receive another phone call. This time they called to tell me the program I wanted originally the Raven Coarse was filled up I was disappointed, but then they told me I could do the Black Bear coarse instead which took place in Borden, Ontario so I said sure I would like to apply for that one instead.

I was accepted into the Black Bear Aboriginal youth program I would be flying out on July 8th, 2012 and wouldn't arrive back until August sometime. Now me being me on the outside I showed excitement, but on the inside I was full of fear. On the airplane I was sitting next to a young guy who I recognized from the school I attended we started chatting, eventually I asked him where he was off to? He responded 'I'm doing a program with the forces called Black Bear'. I said 'really because I am too!' this gave me a bit of comfort, but not much.

First evening on base and already they were treating us like soldiers taking away are electronics that didn't really bother me because I had no one to text anyway. As we were getting settled in the first week we were outdoors at culture camp which is getting to know everyone and participating in Aboriginal activities the

background and knowledge of our ancestors. Second third week learning drill between that and in the classrooms learning about military history, code of conduct, safety, first aid, and rifle lessons. Week five and six we were being taught DNR which involves gas mask and suit latter we would be put through test in the gas hut luckily it was only tear? gas. The confidence course and repel tower and the following day the shooting range I tell you that was the best part of it all putting that rifle on fully automatic.

The time had finally arrived week six and are graduation ceremonial was just around the corner. Long days spent practicing parade drill until we had it down. Graduation day arrived and I got the good feeling of accomplishing something for once in my life not only that, but making life long friends that would have never happened if I didn't get enrolled in this once in a life time opportunity. In the few final days left with each other the toughest part of all saying goodbye.

Through the month and a bit you are required to clean your room keep yourself organized with everyone else and give it your 110% don't give up on yourself. The key to it is teamwork try not to think about home just think of it as a vacation away from your parents. Along the way there are mentors and Aboriginal elders counsellors that are there for you. The best part of every week is Sunday you have the option of church or sharing circle I choose sharing circle because its nice to let everything out and make people laugh.

Me personally I gained a lot from doing this coarse not only \$3,500, but life time long friends knowledge that I will carry with me for the rest of my life. Discipline is a key in a soldiers life working together as team. Can you believe it that I was one of the soldiers with the highest morale in the platoon I was in. Overall I am considering making a career with the Canadian Forces sometime in the future with air force. I would like to become I pilot and fly one of the huge military planes one day on top of all that I have the large to give back to my country.

I, Alex Thurlborn would like to thank Trish McNabb, Kathy Sudlow for the support and helping with the paper work. I wouldn't have gotten it done without you! Thanks guys. Also I would like to thank the two Aboriginal counsellors that were there for us during the camp—John K Snake and Tena Copenave would have made it more difficult without you guy and

last, but not least Jessica Coultas from the recruitment center a very big hand.

WESTSHORE CENTRE FOR LEARNING AND TRAINING

The beginning of the school year has been busy and full of activity. Our students have been working hard and plowing forth on their roads to graduation.

We started our year off in having our first Box of Treasures session with Leslie McGarry. I think I learn something new every time Leslie presents to us, and takes us through the Museum.

Grandma Lee's language teachings have been going very well, many of our kids are starting to remember the words and their meanings. The teachings have helped me to understand many of the traditional introductions and follow along with prayers made by elders. Thank you Grandma Lee. It was so much fun to see our kids dress up and take part in our annual Halloween party at the Station Road Legion. We played games, ate a lot of candy, took part in a costume contest had so much fun.

This Remembrance Day, our students all did Power Points of First Nation war heroes. We had so many great stories, and so much information on our First Nation heroes it makes me wish we could put it in the newsletter! The kids worked very hard and the War Veteran we had in our class Ernie Clark was very impressed.

We had Sgt. Lucas and Sgt. Brewar come into the class to do a session on cyber bullying. Amazing the things I learned about the legal and illegal things our kids can be held accountable for. For example, 'if a 15 year old girl takes a "picture" of herself and send it to her 16 year old boyfriend, they are both at risk of being charged with child pornography!' The age of Social networking has become so scary.

In art class, we've started our moccasins. Some of our kids are completed, others are almost there. But all of them are amazing. So fantastic to see how talented our kids are and the things they can do. Lalita Morrison was in for a presentation on November 15th ...

Cont'd on Page 19 Westshore Centre for Learning and Training

Secondary School News



EMCS

News from Edward Milne Community School:

Well it has been an incredibly busy start to our school year and it is hard to believe that it is almost winter break. Our room is busy as usual and this year we have 113 students on our Aboriginal list. I think that it is incredible that 1 in 6 students here identify as Aboriginal.

We hosted our Christmas lunch on December 10 and both Trish and I were amazed at the quantity of food a growing teenager can consume. It was great to see everyone come together and have a nice lunch as a group and connect over food.

On the 4th of December we had a guest in our school. Richard Van Camp a famous Aboriginal Canadian author came and did a workshop with two of our English classes. Mr. Van Camp is an incredible speaker, who was also our keynote at the Aboriginal Recognition Ceremony last year. It is nice that he has made a connection with our school district and hopefully we will see lots of him in the future. One of Richard's books, "The Lesser Blessed" is being made into a movie; the trailer for it can be seen at this site: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XD0bNnpAA8U&playnext=1&list=PLMNpiAJzdrWXtg4X42-rcTeDQLuE7xR3> &feature=results_main

Lalita Morrison from Uvic is visiting on December 14 to talk to our senior students about programs for Uvic in general as well as specific Indigenous programs for potential students. Also Sergeant Farid Karmali, a recruiter for the Canadian Forces is coming January 10th to talk to students about the three programs that are offered to students: The Raven Program, The Black Bear Program and The Bold Eagle Program.

We also featured four of our students in the "What's Up" magazine for November and December, if you see this magazine, look for articles featuring: Jesse Power, Emily Bernard, Keelan Porter and Alex Thurlborn.

So as you all can see, EMCS is a busy place. Please feel free to contact Trish or myself if you have any questions about your child here at school. We would love to hear from you.

Also please continue to access the Edward Milne Community School website for upcoming events here at the school. The lists of effort and honour roll students are featured in the school newsletter.

Have a safe and happy holiday

Kathryn Sudlow
Aboriginal Support Teacher
ksudlow@sd62.bc.ca
250-642-5211

Trish McNabb
Aboriginal Support Worker
tmcnabb@sd62.bc.ca

250-642-5211



Tyler Nahanee, EMCS

Congratulations to **Tyler Nahanee** for completing the **Health Care Assistant**, 29 week program at Camosun College. Tyler began the program while he was in his grade 12 year. This young, ambitious First Nations student who was living on his own, and working part-time took advantage of the many programs offered to high students to attend Camosun College while still in high school. Not only did Tyler complete the program with an 80% average. He won the **Mount St. Mary Hospital Award** which acknowledges such qualities as compassion, respect, fairness, competence, and responsibility. The staff of Edward Milne wishes Tyler all the best in his new career.



Duck Soup submission: Brodie White, EMCS

Secondary School News

DUCK SOUP FOR THE ABORIGINAL SOUL XII- Spring 2012

Vancouver Island Regional Aboriginal Education Circle is proud to continue with a volume of student work entirely of stories, poetry, photographs and artwork submitted by students from Vancouver Island's school districts. We would like to thank the Aboriginal Education staff from SD No. 62 for working with students and working hard to get so many submissions. Below is one page from last year's annual book. There will be an opportunity to submit in 2013 at schools.

School District 62- Sooke



*Ana Thomas
Westshore Annex*



*Alyssa Collins
Belmont*



*Abby Grigg
EMCS*

Duck Soup for the Aboriginal Soul - Volume XII

Secondary School News



Duck Soup submission:
Dahlila Charlie, Belmont

BELMONT

Hi Everyone,

Well the school year is in full swing and Christmas is almost here. The Aboriginal Room has been busy with all our students and their friends. We have had lots of successes and some terrific role models from various walks of life who have shared history, personal experience and their vast knowledge with us in the last 3 months.

We have a world champion in our midst this year!!! Josh Van Meurs won a gold medal for the semi-contact, World Youth Pankration (mixed martial arts), 75-kilogram weight class championship, in Greece on Saturday November 17, 2012. If that wasn't enough, he won a second gold medal on Monday the 19th for the full-contact MMA championship. By the way, Josh had already won the North American Youth MMA title in Las Vegas last spring. Way to go Josh!!!!

RJ Piché, #29 on our very own Belmont Bulldogs, won MVP and Conference Title at an awards ceremony December 5. Wow!!! Congratulations RJ!!!!!! Once again, some of our students are mentoring at a few of the middle schools and everything is working out perfectly for them. They are doing an awesome job as mentors and we are proud to have them as students in our Aboriginal department.

Our role model book is getting a little dog eared this year with our fantastic teachers here at Belmont wanting to hear more about Aboriginal history and ways of life and, of course, we are happy to oblige. So far this year we have had the pleasure of presentations by:

Richard Van Camp – Aboriginal Author extraordinaire – Richard came all the way from Edmonton to speak with four of our English classes. He shared stories and a special video clip of his first movie coming to a theatre near you soon. “The Lesser Blessed”

Sandy Slobodian – Sandy was phenomenal bringing Métis historical pictures, artifacts and sharing documented information with the students concerning the plight of the Métis through the years. The seven classes of Social Studies 10 teachers and students were excited and the feedback forms were filled with interesting thoughts. Interestingly, many

students want to look into their genealogy to see if they can be considered Métis.

Hudson Webster – Hudson is Nuuchaltn and shared the history of potlatch songs and dances with four of our Social Studies classes.

Earl Claxton and John Williams – Earl and John shared their Saanich people's cultural story telling skills while showing students the indigenous plants in the area.

Charlene George – A terrific Coast Salish artist was a guest teacher in the Art department who shared language while teaching about Coast Salish art.

The students made circular designs and made 3 D pots. She taught them the protocol when making such treasures, that their first project is to be given away.

Lynn Ferguson, AESW

Norma-Jean May, Aboriginal Literacy teacher



Duck Soup submission: Theo Lauer, Belmont

Secondary School News

PACIFIC & MTC News (Cont'd)

Keep up the hard work!
We would like to thank all the terrific teachers, support staff and administration for all your help and dedication in improving the path to success for our students.

We wish everyone wonderful holiday season!

Laurie Gibson (AESW) and Gillian

Eggleton (ESD Teacher)

WESTSHORE CENTRE FOR LEARNING AND TRAINING (cont'd)

Finally, I had the pleasure of taking some of our students to Cowichan for a 3 day youth leadership conference. I'm so proud of them for going and taking part. This conference took them far outside of their comfort zones, taking them from their homes, families, friends and classrooms and introducing them to a room full of strangers and getting them to do exercises that made them feel uncomfortable". I find my faith renewed by getting to be a part of the conference with the kids that our futures are in good hands with them leading us. I loved seeing so many of the kids from the Cowichan area so immersed in their cultures, speaking their languages and singing along with the elders during prayers.
The Rainbow Program
Back in the Queen Charlottes,

our teacher Loni designed and implemented a program called the "Rainbow Program". It is a life skills project aimed at giving our students training for the real world. They all apply for and get "jobs" with in the school which include: attendance, kitchen, clean-up, rule monitor, and many more. The students are paid in Rainbow Bucks that can later be converted to real money. This money is used to pay rent on their seats, "bills", fines (for being late, non-attentive or swearing). The project also provides training on writing checks and balancing bank accounts. Teaching them they have to pay their bills, rant and fines before they can get the real money at the end to purchase either items we provide in the Rainbow store or in outside stores. This project was so successful in the Charlottes, one student made enough to purchase some BOSE headphones. We are hoping the students are as successful in this project here.

Sherri Rose, AESW

Loni Skelton, Westshore First Nations Grad Teacher

WESTSHORE CENTRE FOR LEARNING AND TRAINING

Hi,

News from Westshore! I am there for Monday and Tuesdays from

2:00 to 3:00 pm.

There I work with several of the students. We read together, we do Math together and anything else that needs to get finished. The staff and the students there are fabulous!

Murielle Lagace, AESW

BELMONT- A student's tribute after author Richard Van Camp's four seminars at Belmont.

Mr. Van Camp

By Robert Brant

**The stories he tells,
The fluency of his movement,
flawless.
His soul becomes one with each
story,
Story after story his soul shows.
With each new story told,
Comes a new depth of color.
Never seen by any person in the
world.
Each as mystifying and curious as
the next.
Eyes are opened... Light is
brought forth
The stories he tells creates a
dream.
Each dream in turn opens a new
chapter of thought,
Away from reality, away from the
fight.
His voice, his words,
sets you free.
Freedom is only one way to listen.**

Its story time with Mr. Van Camp

Fall/Winter Edition

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E-mail: kkinghunt@sd62.bc.ca

Submissions

If you would like to submit artwork or poems to the
Aboriginal Education Newsletter please forward your
submissions to ecovey@sd62.bc.ca

Earleen Covey (Aboriginal Education Department Secretary)

*Thanks to the Aboriginal Education Staff for
the newsletter submissions!*



**Cut the coupon below – return to your school office to
send to Kathleen King-Hunt at the SBO.**



Yes, I have read this newsletter with my family!

Return this coupon to win family books from Aboriginal Education
Department. One coupon per family is fine.

A book prize will be forwarded to your school.

Name(s):

School:

Grade:

Return this coupon to your school's office to be forwarded to the SD62
School Board Office.

Attention: Kathleen King-Hunt, District Principal Aboriginal Education

Schools

Visit the District
Resource Centre
for numerous
Aboriginal titles to
use for the
classroom teaching

Newsletter April Coupon Winners!

- Cora, Journey
- Syanyce., Ecole Poirier
- Mitchel, John Muir
- Chianna, Crystal View
- Robyn, John Muir
- Noah, John Muir
- Mackenzie, Saseenos
- Shona, Ecole Poirier
- Raven, Saseenos
- Harry, Westshore FN Grad Program
- Julia , Westshore FN Grad Program
- Cassandra, Westshore FN Grad Program
- Tanner, Wishart

B

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Strong Reader Tools

*When I look at the cover of my book,
my brain searches for information
about...*

1. What I know for sure...

2. What it reminds me of...

3. What I wonder...

4. What I can now predict
the book is going to be about...

As I'm reading my book...

5. I can stop reading when my brain
says, "Hey! That didn't make sense
when"...

6. I can search my brain for
information that isn't in the book,
this will help me to understand the
book better...

7. I can say what the most important
pieces of information are...

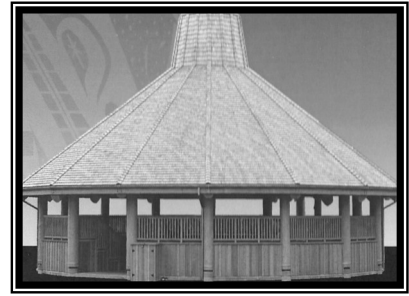
8. I can make pictures in my brain or
see a movie of the book in my brain...

After I've finished reading my book...

9. I can now say how my thinking has
changed from my prediction and
I can retell the book...



Celebrating Student Success
Wednesday, February 27th
Spencer Middle School
5:00pm—8:00pm



Recognition Ceremony

May 25, 2013

Time: 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: Camosun College,
Lansdowne Campus

Quote

MNGV Enhancement Project

"Excellent informative program. Part of the program had so many examples of Metis culture (terrific). The students were very engaged and enjoyed it. The loved singing with the Metis guests and we created a village with the teepee art. Would love to do it again next year! P.S. Thank-you for the package with the storybooks and the informational colouring booklet. I ran booklets off for the class and we are reading and working through it."

Sooke Elementary Teacher

All the best ...

Welcome Rosalind
Wilkinson, Nadine Charles,
Tiara Glendale, Gillian
Eggleton and Jon Carr.

Welcome back Patti
Christianson from Maternity
leave!

Good luck to Justine
Durant, who is away in
Ireland completing her
Masters.

Farewell to Gina Elliott
who moved to Lady-
smith.

Events.....!

Me to We Sacred Circle

December 4-5th

at T'Sou-ke Nation Band Hall

&

January 22-23rd

at Scia'new First Nation Longhouse

Métis Nation of Greater Victoria

Go to www.mngv.ca for community monthly potluck locations and dates!

Join MNGV facebook too!